

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the present application in view of the foregoing amendments and in view of the reasons that follow.

Claim 7 is requested to be canceled, without prejudice.

Claims 9-11 are currently being amended, as follows:

Claim 9 has been amended to add the limitations of Claim 7, now canceled;

Claim 10 has been amended to depend from Claim 9; and

Claim 11 has been amended to delete an extraneous notation;

This amendment changes and/or deletes claims in this application. A detailed listing of all claims that are, or were, in the application, irrespective of whether the claim(s) remain under examination in the application, is presented, with an appropriate defined status identifier.

After amending the claims as set forth above, claims 1-6 and 9-12 are now pending in this application.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph

Claims 11-12 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, for indefiniteness. Specifically, the Examiner noted that the term “p. 22 [0061]” appeared extraneous to the subject matter of claim 11. By this amendment, the term has been deleted from the claim.

Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection under this section is respectfully requested.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph

The Examiner reiterated his rejection of Claim 7, as allegedly lacking enablement in the specification. While the applicants do not agree with this characterization, they have canceled

claim 7, without prejudice, in the interests of promoting prosecution of the remainder of the claims. Applicants reserve the right to file a continuation application directed to the subject matter of the canceled claims.

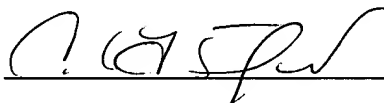
In view of the foregoing amendments to the claims, Applicants believe that the present application is now in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration of the application as amended is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of the present application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 50-0872. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 50-0872. If any extensions of time are needed for timely acceptance of papers submitted herewith, Applicant hereby petitions for such extension under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 and authorizes payment of any such extensions fees to Deposit Account No. 50-0872.

Respectfully submitted,

Date June 21, 2004

By 

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